AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor provided with a platen body using a stacked member comprised of a large number of magnetic sheets aligned and stacked together and having a large number of platen dots formed in a two-dimensional array at one parallel sheet edge surface side of the stacked member,

said platen for a planar linear motor ~~characterized by~~ having a connecting beam member supporting said stacked member at regular discrete positions in the sheet edge direction at the other parallel sheet edge surface side of the stacked member and binding means for binding the magnetic sheets between the other parallel sheet edge surface side and the connecting beam members.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each of said binding means is a joint of a fluid hardening material having a molded connecting part fastening to a male part or female part formed along a perpendicular direction of the other parallel sheet edge surface and a molded joining part connected with the molded connecting part and holding part of a connecting beam member.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said female part is a groove, said platen body has a backing plate placed against the other parallel sheet edge surface, the backing plate has a plurality of first through holes discretely arranged longitudinally in lines across the strip-shaped portion facing the grooves, each connecting beam member has a bent side end placed against the backing plate, said bent side end has a plurality of second through holes discretely arranged longitudinally in lines in the beam longitudinal direction, and said molded connecting part is a rivet-shaped molded part formed by filling the first and second through holes.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said groove is narrow in opening and broad in interior in lateral cross-section.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each of said binding means is a welded joint formed by laser beam welding abutting edges of a side surface of a connecting beam member and the other parallel sheet edge surface along the same.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each said connecting beam member has a bent side end, and said side surface is an outside surface of said bent side end.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each said connecting beam member is provided with a beam body having a bent side end and a long spacer placed against an outside surface of said bent side end and fastened or made integral with the same, and each of said binding means is a welded joint formed by laser beam welding abutting edges of the long spacer and the other parallel sheet edge surface along the same.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said stacked member has grooves formed along a perpendicular direction of the other parallel sheet edge surface, each said connecting beam member is provided with a beam body having a bent side end and a long male part placed against the outside surface of the bent side end and fastened or made integral with the same, and each of said binding means is a joint of a fluid hardening material formed by filling clearances between the long male part and the groove loosely fit together.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each said groove is narrow in opening and broad in interior in lateral cross-section, the long male part is broad in front end and narrow in base in lateral cross-section, and the front end of the long male part is inserted into the opening of the groove.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 2,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein said female part is a groove, said connecting beam member has a bent side end, said bent side end has a plurality of through holes discretely arranged longitudinally in lines in the beam longitudinal direction, said molded connecting part is a male molded part formed by filling the groove, and the molded joining part is a rivet-shaped molded part formed by filling the through holes.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said groove is narrow in opening and broad in interior in lateral cross-section.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said male part is a projecting ridge, each said connecting beam member has a groove having a plurality of through holes discretely arranged in a line longitudinally along the beam longitudinal direction in the groove bottom, said molded connecting part is a female molded part formed by filling the remaining clearance in said groove when said groove accommodates said projecting ridge, and said molded joining part is a rivet-shaped molded part formed by filling said through holes.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said projecting ridge is broad in front end and narrow in base in lateral cross-section.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim ~~2~~ 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said female part is narrow in opening and broad in interior in lateral cross-section, each said connecting beam member has a plurality of notches formed discretely along the beam longitudinal direction of its side end surface, said molded connecting part is a male molded part formed by filling the remaining clearance when said side end surface is made to abut against the bottom surface of said groove, and said molded joining part is a rivet-shaped molded part formed by the overflow of the material from the opening of said groove.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said female part is a first groove narrow in opening and broad in interior in lateral cross-section, each said connecting beam member has a bent side end, said bent side end has a second groove formed at its outside surface along the beam longitudinal direction and narrow in opening and broad in interior in lateral cross-section, and each of said binding means is a pegged dual bulging end molded part formed by filling the first and second grooves in a mated state.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in any one of claims 10 to 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said stacked member is comprised with bonding layers interposed between adjoining magnetic sheets.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in any one

of claims 10 to 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said fluid hardening material is a molten metal material.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said molten metal material is a filler material.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said filler material is an aluminum alloy.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in any one of claims 10 to 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said fluid hardening material is a molten resin material.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in any one of claims 10 to 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said fluid hardening material is an adhesive.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said magnetic sheets are blankings provided with platen dot use projections at every predetermined spatial period along one side edge.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in any one

of claims 1 to 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said platen dots are formed by ~~hape-cutting~~ shape-cutting electrodischarge machining the other parallel sheet edge surface of the stacked member.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said platen dots are formed by etching one parallel sheet edge surface of the stacked member.

Claim 25 (original): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 24, further provided with an outside frame abutting against at least the two side surfaces of the stacked member in the stacking direction and clamping the stacked member.

Claim 26 (original): A platen for a planar linear motor as set forth in claim 25, characterized in that said platen body and said outside frame form a box structure.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 30A, 30B, 30D, 31, 32A, 32B and 32C. This sheet, which includes Figs. 30A, 30B, 30D, 31, 32A, 32B and 32C, replaces the original sheet including Figs. 30A, 30B, 30D, 31, 32A, 32B and 32C. Figs. 30A, 30B, 30D, 31, 32A, 32B and 32C have been labeled prior art..

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in this application, of which claims 1-24 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

The Examiner has objected to Figs. 30A, 30B, 30C, 30D, 31, 32A, 32B and 32C for failing to be labeled as "Prior Art". Replacement sheets containing these Figures are attached hereto.

The Examiner has objected to claims 14, 15 and 23 for various informalities.

Accordingly, claims 1-24 have been amended to correct the noted informalities.

Claims 1-13, 16-22, 24 and 25 have been allowed.

No prior art has been applied to reject the claims.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-26, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Replacement Sheets of Drawing (Figs. 30A, 30B, 30C, 30D, 30D, 31, 32A, 32B and 32C)

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